



**The Utah Poet Laureate is a Governor-appointed advocate for literature and the arts throughout the state who presents in communities, schools, libraries, and public events. The position was established in 1997.**

The deadline for applying is Friday, March 4, 2022 at 5 p.m. MST.

When asked for a funding amount on the application, simply enter "\$5,000.00."

#### HISTORY OF UTAH'S POET LAUREATE

David Lee, St. George  
Appointed by Gov. Michael Leavitt  
1997 - 2003

Kenneth W. Brewer, Logan  
Appointed by Gov. Michael Leavitt  
2003 - 2006

Katharine Coles, Salt Lake City  
Appointed by Gov. Jon Huntsman, Jr.  
2006 - 2012

Lance Larsen, Springville  
Appointed by Gov. Gary R. Herbert  
2012 - 2017

Paisley Rekdal, Salt Lake City  
Appointed by Gov. Gary R. Herbert  
2017 - 2022

#### SELECTION CRITERIA

To be eligible, a candidate must:

- Be a legal, full-time Utah resident for at least three years and presently reside in Utah.
- Have at least one collection of poetry published by independent publishers (self-publication or books published by organizations to promote the work of their own membership do not qualify).



- Have a record of public service to Utah's literary community, including activities such as organizing literary events, serving on volunteer boards and panels, and fundraising for literary organizations.
- Be adept at presenting poetry to a range of ages and abilities.

## SELECTION PROCESS

The Utah Division of Arts & Museums seeks submissions, requesting:

- Résumé or CV
- List of publications and readings
- Up to ten pages of sample work
- Link to a video (up to five minutes) of candidate presenting poetry
- One-page response to these two questions: "What is your vision of the role of a Poet Laureate?" and "Why would you like to be selected as the Utah Poet Laureate?"

A committee composed of members of Utah's literary community will evaluate each candidate. The committee and the Utah Division of Arts & Museums recommend three names to the Governor. The Governor names the Utah Poet Laureate, and the Poet Laureate serves a five-year appointment.

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Poet Laureate is the poet named by the Governor of Utah to represent the state's literary community as an emissary for poetry and creative writing for a term of five years.

- Historically, the Poet Laureate makes six to ten appearances per year, with attention to rural and underserved communities.
- The Poet Laureate will present readings and/or workshops at the Utah Original Writing Competition awards event and Poetry Out Loud state finals, subject to availability. The Poet Laureate will also act as the leading public advocate for the literary arts in Utah.
- The Poet Laureate will be available for invitation by schools, libraries, colleges, universities, writers' organizations, etc., to speak at various functions. Requests are honored based on the nature of the request and the availability of the Poet Laureate. The fee for an appearance is \$400. For nonprofit organizations hosting a public event or for select organizations who serve the public (such as teacher organizations), Utah Division of Arts & Museums will pay half the fee (\$200).



## Utah Division of **Arts & Museums**

Other organizations pay the full \$400 fee. UA&M covers the cost of travel and lodging (if more than 100 miles round-trip). In-kind lodging, if available, can be used to offset cash amount owed by an organization.

- The Poet Laureate will maintain his or her own schedule, notifying UA&M staff of any engagements for record-keeping purposes. UA&M will make honorarium payments and travel reimbursements.
- During the term of service, the Poet Laureate will undertake a project of his or her own choosing that promotes poetry throughout the state.
- The Poet Laureate's term of office will run for five years. At the end of the term, UA&M will assemble a new selection committee, and recommendations will be forwarded to the Governor.

Apply at this link: <https://utahdcc.secure.force.com/portal/>